



2019 State Advocacy Program

Funding

- Support innovative funding solutions that stabilize and or generate new revenues for transportation projects that includes funding for transit capital and operations.
- Support efforts that increase the formula allocation of cap & trade auction revenue to public transit operations and capital investments, and the development of an expenditure plan for cap and trade revenue that provides an equitable investment in mass transit and infill/transit oriented development (TOD).
- Support legislation and programs that would provide funding to offset the costs of climate change initiatives, such as the Innovative Clean Transit regulation and any zero emission vehicles and infrastructure.
- Support efforts for new, sustainable funding for existing transit revenues, including the State Transit Assistance (STA) program and Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) to offset the decline in available revenue.
- Support efforts that would exempt public transit providers from state sales tax.
- Support local ability to increase fees and gas taxes to be used for local mass transit purposes.
- Support congestion pricing strategies and legislation that provide an equitable multi-modal distribution of generated revenues.
- Support legislative or administrative action to remove state barriers so that Medicaid transportation funds can be used for public transit services, including ADA paratransit services.
- Support funding and coordination between the California Health and Human Services (CHHS) agency, Regional Center of the East Bay (RCEB), and transportation agencies to provide services to clients.
- Support additional funding for essential services including, but not limited to, services for access to work, school or medical facilities.
- Support policy initiatives that relieve the undue burden of mandatory regulations by requiring all mandates be sufficiently funded to protect the fiscal integrity of the District.

- Support efforts to ensure public transit receives a fair share of any new tax revenue, such as online sales tax revenue.
- Support efforts at the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and state legislature for discounted rates of electricity for zero emission vehicles.
- Support efforts that increase production and the number of stations for hydrogen fuel.
- Support funding for operation and maintenance of the Transbay Transit Center.
- Monitor funding for school transportation operations and student transit pass programs.

Equipment and Operations

- Support legislation or administrative action that directs Caltrans to establish and maintain HOV and HOT lanes on state highway routes and improve existing lane management to maximize person throughput.
- Support incentives to provide bus only lanes on bridges.
- Support legislation to exempt public transit and paratransit vehicles from state and local truck route ordinances.
- Support legislation or administrative action that would direct Caltrans to permit permanent use of freeway shoulders by public transit buses and paratransit vehicles.
- Support increased resources for security and safety of buses and facilities.
- Support funding for zero emission vehicle workforce training programs.
- Support funding to develop and deploy new transit data management platforms including capabilities like GIS, machine learning and data analytics for safety and efficiency.
- Support efforts to deploy new video security technologies including video analytics and collision avoidance system.
- Support efforts that increase the limit of facility repairs to \$50,000 or more under public contract code 20211(c).
- Support efforts that eliminates a requirement established by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to replace hybrid Medium-Heavy Duty Diesel Engines (MHDDE) every 8 years or 185,000 miles.

Transit Incentives

- Support legislation to provide incentives for employees and employers to use public transportation to commute to work, including tax credits for purchasing transit passes.

- Support clean air initiatives that encourage increased public transit use.
- Support legislation to provide incentives for local governments and developers to incorporate transit passes into the cost of commercial and residential projects.

Environment and Transit Supportive Land Use

- Advocate for transit-supportive legislation that addresses climate change, healthy communities and environments.
- Foster transit supportive land use initiatives that require coordination with transit providers in the initial stages of local planning or project development that impacts transit, including density level decisions; and advocate for the required use of:
 - Transit streets agreements; and
 - Complete streets plans in which local transportation plans anticipate use of all modes.
- Support improvement to the California Environmental Protection Agency's (Cal/EPA) screening process to better account for the disadvantaged communities of the East Bay.

Other Transportation Related Advocacy

- Support simple majority vote for local transportation tax initiatives.
- Support legislation to allow the District to ban persons for specified offenses relating to aggressive, threatening or criminal behavior against district property, assets or personnel and from entering District property, including buses.
- Support efforts that levy fees or taxes on transportation network companies (TNCs) to fund local public transportation.
- Monitor legislation or regulations related to emerging mobility services, autonomous vehicles, and shared data that can be used for transportation and operational purposes.
- Support funding that invests in apprenticeship and workforce training programs.
- Seek revisions to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's statutes to include direct representation of transit properties on its governing board.
- Monitor efforts that study or implement a Mileage Road User Fee Program.
- Support legislation that requires jurisdictions to install Transit Signal Priority equipment in order to receive money for traffic signal upgrades.

- Support efforts to authorize AC Transit to enforce parking in bus stops through the use of forward-facing cameras.

Administrative and Non-Transportation Related Advocacy

- Seek to harmonize treatment of independent public agency retirement systems with large systems (e.g. CalPERS, CalSTRS).
- Support efforts that maintain existing Workers' Compensation regulation.
- Consider efforts to reform tort general damages for all public agencies.
- Monitor actions regarding California's Public Employees' Pension Reform Act (PEPRA).
- Monitor administrative and regulatory compliance legislation that potentially impacts the District.
- Support legislation that eliminates liability for common carriers.
- Monitor progress of the 2020 Census and support actions that ensure an accurate count.